**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**The following changes have been made:**

**The first paragraph of the Specification has been amended as follows:**

TECHNICAL FIELD

C3 The present invention relates to a mammalian polypeptide designated Inhibitory PAS Domain Protein (IPAS) which polypeptide is useful for the inhibition of angiogenesis and/or tumor progression. The invention also relates to screening methods for compounds potentially useful as medicaments for the treatment of medical conditions related to angiogenesis or tumor progression.

**The paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7 has been amended as follows:**

Consequently, in a first aspect this invention provides an isolated nucleic acid C3 molecule selected from:

(a) nucleic acid molecules comprising a nucleotide sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 2;

(b) nucleic acid molecules comprising a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridizing, under stringent hybridization conditions, to a nucleotide sequence complementary to the polypeptide coding region of a nucleic acid molecule as defined in (a) and which codes for a biologically active mammalian IPAS polypeptide or a functionally equivalent modified form thereof; and

(c) nucleic acid molecules comprising a nucleic acid sequence which is degenerate as a result of the genetic code to a nucleotide sequence as defined in (a) or (b) and which codes for a biologically active mammalian IPAS polypeptide or a functionally equivalent modified form thereof.

**The paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8 has been amended as follows:**

C4 In a preferred form of the invention, the ~~said~~ nucleic acid molecule has a nucleotide sequence identical to ~~with~~ SEQ ID NO: 2 of the Sequence Listing. However, the nucleic acid molecule according to the invention is not to be limited ~~strictly~~ to the sequence shown as

SEQ ID NO: 2. Rather the invention encompasses nucleic acid molecules ~~carrying~~ having modifications like substitutions, small deletions, insertions or inversions, which nevertheless encode proteins having substantially the biochemical activity of the IPAS polypeptide according to the invention. Therefore, ~~Included in~~ the invention encompasses ~~are consequently~~ nucleic acid molecules, the nucleotide sequence of which is at least 90% homologous, preferably at least 95% homologous, ~~with~~ to the nucleotide sequence shown as SEQ ID NO: 2 in the Sequence Listing.

C4 Cont'd

**The paragraph on page 8 starting on line 12 has been amended as follows:**

In a further aspect, this invention provides an isolated mammalian IPAS polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule as defined above. In a preferred form, the said polypeptide has an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 3 of the Sequence Listing. However, the polypeptide according to the invention is not to be limited ~~strictly~~ to a polypeptide with an amino acid sequence identical ~~with~~ to SEQ ID NO: 3 in the Sequence Listing. Rather the invention encompasses polypeptides carrying modifications like substitutions, small deletions, insertions or inversions, which polypeptides nevertheless have substantially the biological activities of the IPAS polypeptide. Included in the invention are ~~consequently~~ polypeptides, the amino acid sequence of which is at least 90% homologous, preferably at least 95% homologous, ~~with~~ to the amino acid sequence shown as SEQ ID NO: 3 in the Sequence Listing.

C5

**The paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8 has been amended as follows:**

Hidden Markov Model profiles[3] were designed using the HMMER 1,8,3 software[19] from nucleotide sequences corresponding to the PAS domain of a selected number of bHLH/PAS factors. A mouse EST database at GenBank ~~(http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov)~~ was screened and an EST clone of 460 bp (GenBank Acc: AA028416; SEQ ID NO: 1) containing a bHLH (basic-helix-loop-helix) PAS motif, was identified.